

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 199304
ORIGIN SS-25

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KABUL IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

CINCPAC

USCINCEUR AI-

S E C R E T STATE 199304

EXDIS - MILITARY ADDEES HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

E.O. 11652:XGDS - 1

TAGS: PEPR, US, UR, IR, AF, PK, CH

SUBJECT: AFGHAN FOREIGN MINISTER COMPLAINS ABOUT PAKISTANI
INTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS

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REF: (A) KABUL 6240; (B) ISLAMABAD 7508 (NOTAL)

1. WE AGREE COMPLETELY WITH YOUR VIEW THAT WE SHOULD NOT
GET INTO THE MIDDLE OF AFGHAN-PAK DISAGREEMENTS. AFGHAN
LEADERSHIP PROBABLY CONSIDERS PAKISTAN TO BE A U.S. CLIENT
STATE AND VASTLY EXAGGERATES OUR INFLUENCE IN ISLAMABAD.
LIKEWISE, THE GOP MAY BE DISPOSED TO SEE THE SOVIETS AS AN

INTERMEDIARY ON THE GROUNDS THAT AFGHANISTAN IS THEIR CLIENT. WE ALSO AGREE THAT AMIN MAY BE PREPARING THE GROUND FOR JUSTIFYING INCREASED SOVIET MILITARY ASSISTANCE. IN ANY EVENT, WE DO NOT BELIEVE U.S. CAN BE PROFITABLY CAST IN ROLE OF "HONEST BROKER", SINCE BOTH SIDES ARE LIKELY TO OVERESTIMATE OUR CLOUT AND MAY ALSO SEEK TO MANIPULATE THE SITUATION IN WAYS NOT NECESSARILY CONSISTENT WITH OUR INTERESTS.

2. IN FUTURE DISCUSSIONS WITH DRA OFFICIALS WE BELIEVE YOU SHOULD CONTINUE TO AVOID ANY DIRECT ROLE AS AN INTERMEDIARY BETWEEN KABUL AND ISLAMABAD. YOU MIGHT, HOWEVER, CONSIDER EXPLORING WITH TARAKI AT SOME POINT THE QUESTION

OF CONFLICTING VIEWS WITHIN THE DRA ON THE STATE OF AFGHAN-PAK RELATIONS, INDICATING THAT AS A RESULT WE ARE UNCLEAR JUST WHAT THE AFGHAN POSITION IS. YOU SHOULD ALSO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF FUTURE DISCUSSIONS TO CONTINUE YOUR URGINGS THAT DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES BE RESOLVED THROUGH DIRECT CONTACT AT APPROPRIATELY HIGH LEVELS AND TO REAFFIRM OUR POSITION ON NONINTERFERENCE IN AFGHANISTAN'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS.

3. FOR ISLAMABAD: APPRECIATE YOUR OBSERVATIONS ON PAK VIEWS CONVEYED REF B. IF PROJECTED VISITS OF PAK MIN COMMERCE TO KABUL AND TARAKI TO ISLAMABAD MATERIALIZE,
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THEY MAY CONSTITUTE PROGRESS TOWARD BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN AFGHANISTAN AND PAKISTAN WHICH TO US SEEM PREFERABLE TO A DIRECT ROLE FOR EITHER US OR THE SOVIETS.
CHRISTOPHER

SECRET

NNN

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